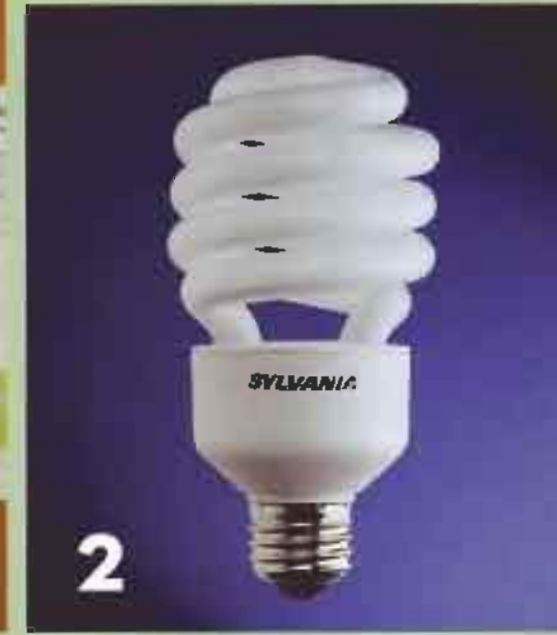


Green Way: 8 Healthy-Home Products

1. VOC's are solvents in paint that are bad for the air we breathe and smell, and they also eat away at the ozone layer. Luckily, some eco-friendly paints are wiping out the fumes with zero-VOC products. YOLO Colorhouse has a 40-hue palette inspired by nature while helping to preserve it. 503-493-8275. www.yolocolorhouse.com
2. Sylvania's compact fluorescent light bulb (CFL) uses 66 percent less energy than an incandescent bulb and lasts up to 10 times longer. In fact, if every household in the U.S. replaced one light bulb with an Energy Star-qualified CFL, it would prevent enough pollution equal to removing one million cars from the road. 800-544-4828. www.sylvania.com
3. EcoStar's Majestic Slate roofing looks like the real thing, even up close. It's made from recycled industrial rubber and plastic so it's environmentally friendly, lightweight and easy to install, plus it holds up in extreme weather. 800-231-7170. www.premiumroofs.com
4. Zone heating from vent-free fireplaces results in warmth where and when you need it, so you can turn down the thermostat and save energy and money. They also provide emergency heating during power outages. Empire Comfort Systems' vent-free firebox/Breckenridge with light oak standard mantel. 800-851-3153. www.empirecomfort.com
5. Marmoleum—natural flooring made from biodegradable ingredients—is free of lead, formaldehyde and chlorine. Also, the manufacturer, Forbo Flooring, focuses on waste and energy reduction at all of their plants. 866-627-6653. www.themarmoleumstore.com
6. Winter dryness is the worst—nobody likes chapped lips. But that's not the only reason to get a humidifier. When you add moisture to the air, you actually feel warmer, which means you can turn down the thermostat and save energy. Aprilaire's whole-home humidifier Model 700. www.aprilaire.com
7. Insulspan Inc. SIPs use recyclable materials, reduce pollutants, fossil-fuel consumption and reliance on old-growth lumber. They can be used for walls and roofing and will save you about 50 to 75 percent on heating and cooling costs. www.insulspan.com
8. Tankless water heaters run hot water only when you need it and for as long as you need it. You save energy, water and up to 70 percent on monthly heating and power bills. A control panel lets you customize water temps in every room. Rinnai tankless heater with stainless controller (shown) that's also a TV. 866-746-6241. www.foreverhotwater.com



Three Reasons to Go Green

According to the Department of Energy, the United States' 82 million buildings consume more energy than any other sector of the economy, including transportation and industry. That includes your home. "Fortunately, the opportunities to reduce energy use and the associated environmental impacts are significant," says Douglas L. Faulkner, the DOE's acting assistant secretary for Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Building. The result is improved comfort levels, protection from fluctuations in energy costs and environmental sustainability. It's even possible to keep your home lit during a blackout.